

# PEDIATRIC

## BASIC LIFE SUPPORT GUIDELINE

### SYRUP OF IPECAC

**Use only when recommended by On-Line Medical Control.**

**Syrup of Ipecac is used to induce vomiting. It should not be administered routinely in the management of poisoned patients. Proceed only on the advice of On-Line Medical Control or Poison Control Center.**

#### INDICATIONS:

- Poisoning by mouth in the conscious patient.
- Must be given within 20-30 minutes of ingestion of the poison.
- Patient is suspected to have ingested a potentially toxic or lethal poison.

#### POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS:

- May delay administration of or reduce the effectiveness of activated charcoal or oral antidotes.
- Vomiting and airway obstruction.

#### CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Altered mental status, seizures or third trimester of pregnancy.
- Ingestion of hydrocarbons, corrosive or caustic substances.
- Ingestion of poisons which are likely to cause rapid onset of loss of consciousness, coma or seizures.

#### PRECAUTIONS:

- Patient must be capable and willing to swallow Ipecac.
- Ipecac may take up to 30 minutes to work, do not delay transport waiting for results.

1. Assess the patient, treat ABC problems, obtain baseline vitals and consider transport plan based on general impression.
2. Remove visible pills, tablets, or fragments from patient's mouth, if necessary.
3. Determine what the patient has ingested and read label regarding poisoning directions, if applicable.
4. **Do not administer Activated Charcoal concurrently with Ipecac.**
5. Contact Poison Control at 1-800-860-0620, or on a designated EMS frequency and obtain additional information.
6. Contact On-Line Medical Control. Relay information about the incident and Poison Control recommendations. Follow orders received from On-Line Medical Control. If

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unable to contact On-Line Medical Control follow directions to administer Syrup of Ipecac if directed by Poison Control.

7. Take full body substance isolation precautions (gloves, mask, eye protection, and clothing cover)!
8. Check the expiration date and confirm that the medication is Syrup of Ipecac.
9. **Have an emesis basin and/or bio-hazard bag, and suction ready.**
10. Administer one dose orally according to the following guidelines:
  - Children (6-17 years): 30 ml
  - Children (1 to 5 years): 15 ml
  - Infants (6 mos. to 1 year): 10 ml
11. The emetic action is improved if fluids are given orally just before or after the Ipecac. Precede or follow the dose with up to 8 oz of water or until vomiting is induced. Emetic action may be enhanced by ambulation.
12. Record the time of administration and dose given.
13. Be prepared for the patient to vomit. Have suction ready and transport the patient in a seated position or on their side. Transport promptly and perform ongoing assessment en route.
14. Do not administer more than one dose without On-Line Medical Control permission.

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